

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Shelby L. Cook et al.

Application No. 10/615,625

Filed: June 27, 2003

For: BIOABSORBABLE SUTURE ANCHOR  
SYSTEM FOR USE IN SMALL JOINTS

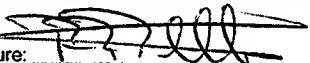
Confirmation No. 9377

Art Unit: 3731

Examiner: Tuan Van Nguyen

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent via EFS-Web to: Mail Stop  
Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-  
1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: September 2, 2009

Signature:   
(Rory P. Pheiffer)

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Dear Sir:

Applicants submit this paper in response to the Office Action dated March 30, 2009. This paper is being submitted concurrently with a Declaration of Shelby L. Cook, Jose E. Lizardi, Karl S. Reese, and Thomas A. Shepard and a Petition for a Three Month Extension of Time based on the date of the Office Action. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any required fees, as well as any deficiencies, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 141449 under reference number 22956-214.

A *Listing of the Claims* begins on page 2 of this paper.

*Remarks* begin on page 5 of this paper.

A *§1.131 Declaration of Shelby L. Cook, Jose E. Lizardi, Karl S. Reese, and Thomas A. Shepard* is attached hereto.